

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH
KINGSWOOD URBAN DISTRICT, for the year 1923.



Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1923.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District : 1,555 acres.

Population : 12,951.

No. of inhabited houses : 2,808.

No. of families or separate occupiers : 3,060.

Rateable Value : £32,750.

Sum represented by penny rate : £136. 6. 6.

II. VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

During the year there were 245 Births registered, 128 Males, 117 Females, which included 2 illegitimate children, both males. There were two lots of Twins, a Male and Female child at each birth.

The birth rate is 18.1 per 1,000 of the population.

The birth rate of England and Wales for the same year was 19.7.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths recorded during the year as dying in the district was 105. This, estimating the population at 13,189, gives a death rate 7.04 per 1,000. The number of transferable deaths as dying in institutions outside the area was 27; this added makes 132, with a death rate of 9.7 per 1000, a very satisfactory rate. The Death Rate for England and Wales was 11.6 per 1000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The deaths of Infants under 1 year was 17. This gives a rate 69.3 per 1000 of the Births registered, a decided improvement on last year's rate of 98.76.

CAUSE OF DEATH AND AGES AT DEATH.

Name of Disease.	At all Ages.	Under 1 yr.	yrs. 1-5	yrs. 5-15	yrs. 15-25	yrs. 25-45	yrs. 45-65	65 yrs. & over.
Whooping Cough	2	1	1					
Diphtheria	3			3				
Influenza	2					1		1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	11			1	1	7	2	
Other Tuberculous Disease	3		1	1		1		
Cancer	10			1			5	4
Diabetes	3					2		1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	6					1	3	2
Heart Disease	24	1	1			1	4	17
Arterio-Sclerosis	4						1	3
Bronchitis	10	4	1			1	1	3
Pneumonia	7	1	1		1	2	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1				1		
Diarrhoea	1	1						
Nephritis	2					2		
Premature birth	5	5						
Septicaemia	3			2		1		
Senile Decay	9							9
Violent and Acci- dental Deaths	8		1	2		3	1	1
Other defined diseases	17	3		1		2	3	8
Totals	132	17	6	11	2	25	21	50

III. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Diphtheria : 10 cases notified.
1 case sent to Hospital.
3 deaths.

Scarlet Fever : 59 cases notified.
4 cases sent to Hospital.
No deaths.

Puerperal Fever : No cases.

Chicken Pox (notifiable from July to Nov.) : 5 cases.

Tuberculosis : Pulmonary 15.
Non-Pulmonary 8.
Deaths - Pulmonary 11.
Non-Pulmonary 3.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum : 2 cases, treated at home. No case of impaired vision.

IV. SICKNESS DURING THE YEAR.

Tuberculosis. The deaths from this disease number 14, 7 Males and 7 Females, the lowest number save one in the last 5 years.

1918 - 18; 1919 - 16; 1920 - 11; 1921 - 21; 1922 - 18.

The occupations of the deceased were: Boot-operatives 2, Motor Mechanics 2, Chemist 1, Printers Packer 1; Mercantile Seaman 1, the other 7 had no occupation. The 14 are made up of 11 pulmonary cases, 2 meningial, and 1 general tuberculosis.

Scarlet Fever was prevalent throughout the year, there being only 2 months when there were no cases. The disease was of a mild type and no deaths occurred.

Whooping Cough was prevalent in May and 1 death was recorded.

Chicken Pox, notifiable on July 10th owing to small pox being prevalent about Gloucester. No cases of Small Pox occurred locally.

Diphtheria. There was an improvement in number of cases compared with last year. 10 cases notified against 26).
2 deaths " " 4).

Chicken Pox was notably prevalent in spring and early summer and upon notification (in July) a decline was noted.

Small Pox, though prevalent around Gloucester, was not met with in the District.

Tonsilitis and Sore Throats were a notable cause of sickness in October, owing possibly to the unusually wet season at that time.

Mumps in November and December caused a number of absences from School. Adults were rarely victims.

There has been no epidemic of any magnitude during the year.

V. INFANT WELFARE.

During the year the work of the Infant Welfare Centre continued to be carried on at the Wesleyan Schoolroom, Blackhorse Road. The statistics for the year are :

Mothers - total attendances	1,510
Children "	1,300
Weighings and M.O. consultations	1,068
Mothers and children regularly attending	124

These figures give some indication of the amount of work being carried on. I am sure the district is much indebted to the fine work done by the band of voluntary workers.

VI. HEALTH VISITOR'S REPORT.

(1) CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE.

Feeble children are visited frequently and advice re feeding and clothing given. During the year there were 3,130 visits paid. The deaths numbered 19. The total number of cases on the books was 812.

(2) TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

The number of cases on the books	=	110.
Deaths during the year	=	22.
Visits ...	=	703.

Visits are made at regular intervals. Ex-servicemen, extra-diet cases and shelter cases are under constant supervision, and reports sent monthly. Advice is given particularly in regard to preventive measures.

(3) SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Assistance was given at 24 medical inspections of schools. 1,095 children were examined by the School Medical Officer. 115 physically defective children were referred to the Health Visitor by the County Medical Officer of Health, and 233 visits were paid to the homes. Four schools were visited to ascertain cases of pediculosis and 1,770 children examined. 19 visits were paid to the schools, and infected children were followed up till "clean", entailing visits extending over 3 months. The clerical work consisted in filling in 1,040 cards with envelopes, etc.

VII. NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS and OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

This is provided by the Kingswood Nursing Association.

MIDWIVES. No midwives employed by the Local Authority.

There are 4 Midwives practising in the District, not including the 2 or more provided by the Kingswood Nursing Association.

HOSPITAL. There is one hospital in the district, namely that for small-pox, in Fisher Lane. No cases, however, occurred during the year.

For infectious diseases - other than small-pox - the Mangotsfield Hospital is available by arrangement with the Warmley Rural District Authority.

There is no institution in the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

- (a) For infectious cases - Motor Ambulance by permission of the Warmley Rural District Authority.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases - Motor Ambulances - St. John and Marine Ambulance, City of Bristol.

These facilities are much appreciated for the promptness and courtesy of those in charge.

VIII. LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are made in the University of Bristol by arrangement with the Gloucestershire County Council.

IX. LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890 Part III.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 1889.

Do. do. (Prevention) Act 1890.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907.

Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of Part II.

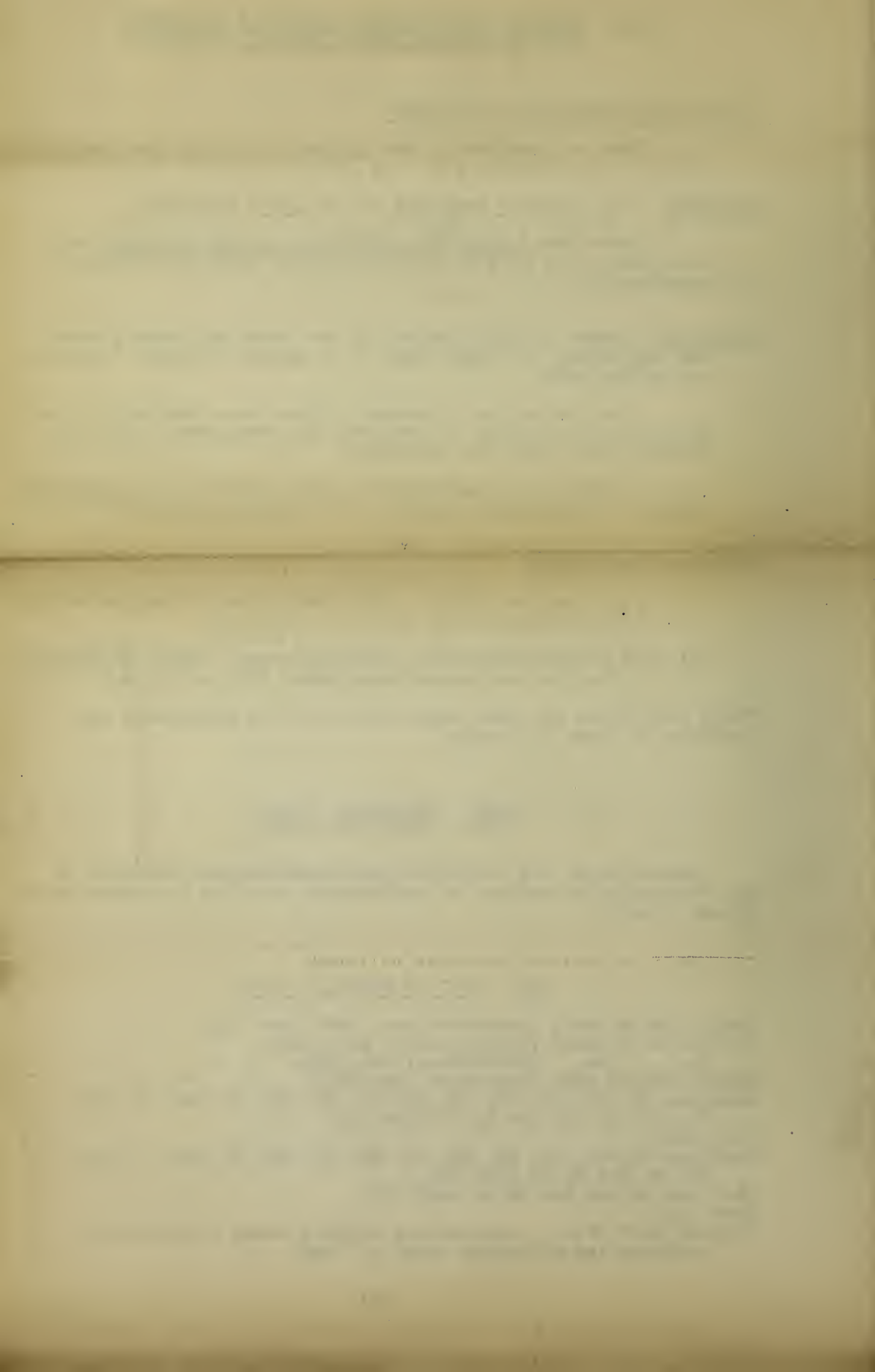
Part III.

Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 68 of Part IV.

Sections 81, 85 and 86 of Part VII.

Part VIII.

January 31st 1912. Regulations adopted under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885.



X. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

This consists of

The Medical Officer of Health.
The Sanitary Inspector.
The Health Visitor.



XI. HOUSING.

Overcrowding. Owing to the slow rate at which new houses are being provided for the increasing population, overcrowding continues to be a source of anxiety in respect of the general health of the community, and in the circumstances it is fortunate that no serious epidemic has occurred.

XII. WATER SUPPLY.

10. The number of new connections in the Area during the year was 10. There was no shortage and the quality has been good.

XIII. RAINFALL.

The average for the year was 32.70, the exact average for the past 36 years. February with 6.84 inches and October with 4.25 and December 3.22 were the wettest months of the year.

XIV. SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

Burial Ground. The need for extension of the burial ground for the district was a matter referred to in my last Annual Report, and has fortunately been in a large measure solved by the purchase of 2 acres of land for this purpose adjoining the Parish Church.

Mortuary. The need for a mortuary referred to in previous annual reports has not been relieved.

FORM which Medical Officers of Health in the County of GLOUCESTER
are requested by the PUBLIC HEALTH and HOUSING COMMITTEE of
the COUNTY COUNCIL to fill up.

KINGSWOOD URBAN DISTRICT.

For year ending December 31st, 1923.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres) 1555.
Population (1921) 12951.
Number of inhabited houses (1921) 2808.
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 3060.
Rateable Value £32,750.
Sum represented by a penny rate £136. 6. 6.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

		<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>		
Births	(Legitimate	243	126	117)	Birth Rate (R.G.)	18.1.
	(Illegitimate	2	2	0)		
		<u>245</u>				

Deaths Death Rate (R.G.) 9.7.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth (From sepsis 0.
(" other causes 0.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births :-
Legitimate 69.3. Illegitimate 0. Total 69.3.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 0.
Do. Whooping Cough (all ages) 2.
Do. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) 1.

Specify any unusual or excessive mortality during the year which
has received or required comment.

No.

3. NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.		Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	...	10	1	3
Scarlet Fever	...	59	4	0
Pneumonia	...	-	-	6
Other diseases notifiable locally				
(Specify disease)	Chicken Pox	5	-	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR (Contd.).

Disease.			Total cases. notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Tuberculosis :					
(a) Pulmonary	(M.	...	5		
	(F.	...	10		
	(Total	...	15		11
(b) Non-Pulmonary	(M.	...	3		
	(F.	...	5		
	(Total	...	8		3

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision unim- paired.	Vision im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital.				
2	2	2	Nil	Yes	nil	nil	nil

4. SICKNESS DURING THE YEAR.

Scarlet fever prevalent throughout the year, 59 cases of a mild type, and no deaths.

Diphtheria less cases than in the previous year, 10 as compared with 26.

Tonsillitis markedly present in October and November. Mumps in November and December.

5. HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

(a) Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council :

(1) Tuberculosis	none.	
(2) Maternity	none.	
(3) Children	none.	
(4) Fever shared with Warmley R.D.C.		No. of Beds 8.
(5) Smallpox	one.	No. of Beds 5.
(6) Other	none.	

(b) Ambulance Facilities :

- (a) For infectious cases, Warmley Rural Area Motor Ambulance.
- (b) For non-infectious and accident cases, St. John's Ambulance and Marine Ambulance.

6. LIST OF ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND LOCAL REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1890, Part III.
Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
 Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907.
 Sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28,
 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of Part II.
 Part III.
 Sections 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64,
 65, 66, and 68 of Part IV.
 Sections 81, 85 and 86 of Part VII.
 Part VIII.
 Jan. 31st, 1912. Regulations adopted under the Dairies,
 Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885.

7. SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

(1) Water Supply.

- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) Is there deficiency in any part,
and, if so, what part or parts? | No. |
| (b) Has there been any change in the
existing sources of supply? | No. |
| (d) Number of new connections with
public supply | 10. |
| (e) Number of wells sunk, or improved
sources of supply provided | Nil. |
| (f) Number of wells closed | Nil. |
| (g) Number of samples taken for
examination | Nil. |

(2) Sewerage and Drainage.

- | | |
|--|--|
| (a) In what parishes, if any, is there
need for | |
| (1) A sewerage system? | District already
sewered. |
| (2) Improvements in existing
sewerage? | Extensions, Black-
Horse Road, Mount
Hill, Foots Hill
and Crown Lane. |
| (3) Improvements in sewage
disposal? | Renovation of
Warmley Sewage
Works completed. |
| (b) Has any application for a Loan
been made? | Yes. |
| (1) Amount | £1,271. |
| (2) Purpose | Sewer extensions. |
| (c) Number of houses in each parish
newly connected with sewers | 30. |
| (d) Number of W.C's. newly supplied
with flushing cisterns | 36. |
| (f) Number of notices served to
empty "Privy Vaults" | 2. |
| (g) Number of privy vaults abolished | 21. |

(3) Refuse Disposal.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| (b) What changes in the collection or
disposal were made during 1923? | The area served
has been extended. |
|--|---------------------------------------|

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION (Contd.).

(4) Numbers Inspected of each of the following :

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register</u>	<u>No.</u> <u>Inspected.</u>	<u>Total No.</u> <u>Inspections.</u>
(a) Common Lodging Houses	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Slaughter Houses	15	15	272
(c) Bakehouses	25	25	120
(d) Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops	36	36	261
(e) Canal Boats			
(f) Workshops)			
(g) Residence of Out-) workers)	412	271	294

(5) General.

(a) Number of complaints received	4.
(b) Number of nuisances reported to District Council :	
(1) Total	61.
(2) Swine	1.
(c) Total number of nuisances abated	55.
(d) Total number of preliminary notices served	52.
(h) Number of houses disinfected	66.
(i) Methods of disinfection used	Spraying.

8. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

- (1) Medical Officer of Health : CHARLES JOHN PERROTT.
Qualifications - L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I.
- (2) Sanitary Inspector : HOWARD GLYNN WARNE.

9. HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year 9.

1. Unfit dwelling-houses.

- Inspection - (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 120.
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 6.
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 17.

2. Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 71.

HOUSING (Contd.).

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 31.
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :
(a) by owners 40.
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(Signed) C. J. PERROTT,

Medical Officer of Health.

WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE WATER COMPANY.

Rain gauge fixed at Hopewell Hill.

Dia. of Funnel 5", height of top above ground 10". Above sea level 373 ft.

RAINFALL 1923.

Month.	Total depth Inches.	Greatest fall in 24 hrs.		No. of days on which more than .01 fell.
		Inches.	Date.	
January	1.81	.65	5th	15
February	6.84	.88	1st	24
March	1.32	.33	12th	12
April	2.37	.49	11th	18
May	1.65	.38	12th	18
June	.50	.37	15th	4
July	2.49	.61	30th	14
August	2.95	.57	29th	14
September	2.54	.64	19th	13
October	4.25	.51	12th	23
November	2.76	1.36	13th	13
December	<u>3.22</u>	.62	1st	<u>20</u>
	32.70			188

Average for 36 years 32.70.

REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR for the year ending
31st December, 1923.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1923.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year the cases of infectious disease notified were :-

Diphtheria	10	A decrease of 16 from 1922.
Scarlet Fever	59	An increase of 15 over "
Chicken Pox	5	
Ophthalmia		
Neonatorum	2	An increase of 1 over "
Tuberculosis	23	An increase of 5 " "

The decrease in the number of diphtheria cases following on a decrease reported last year is a gratifying feature, but it is to be regretted that there has been an increase in the incidence of scarlet fever.

Inspections of schools and school drainage have been made and the Sanitary accommodation has invariably been found clean and in good order.

There have been very few instances of a second case occurring in the same house, so that the unfortunate overcrowding, which is now so frequent, does not appear to have directly spread this disease.

It is, however, possible that the low standard of living, which long continued depression in trade has made inevitable, may have resulted in an increased susceptibility on the part of children.

The cases have usually been of a mild type, no deaths having resulted.

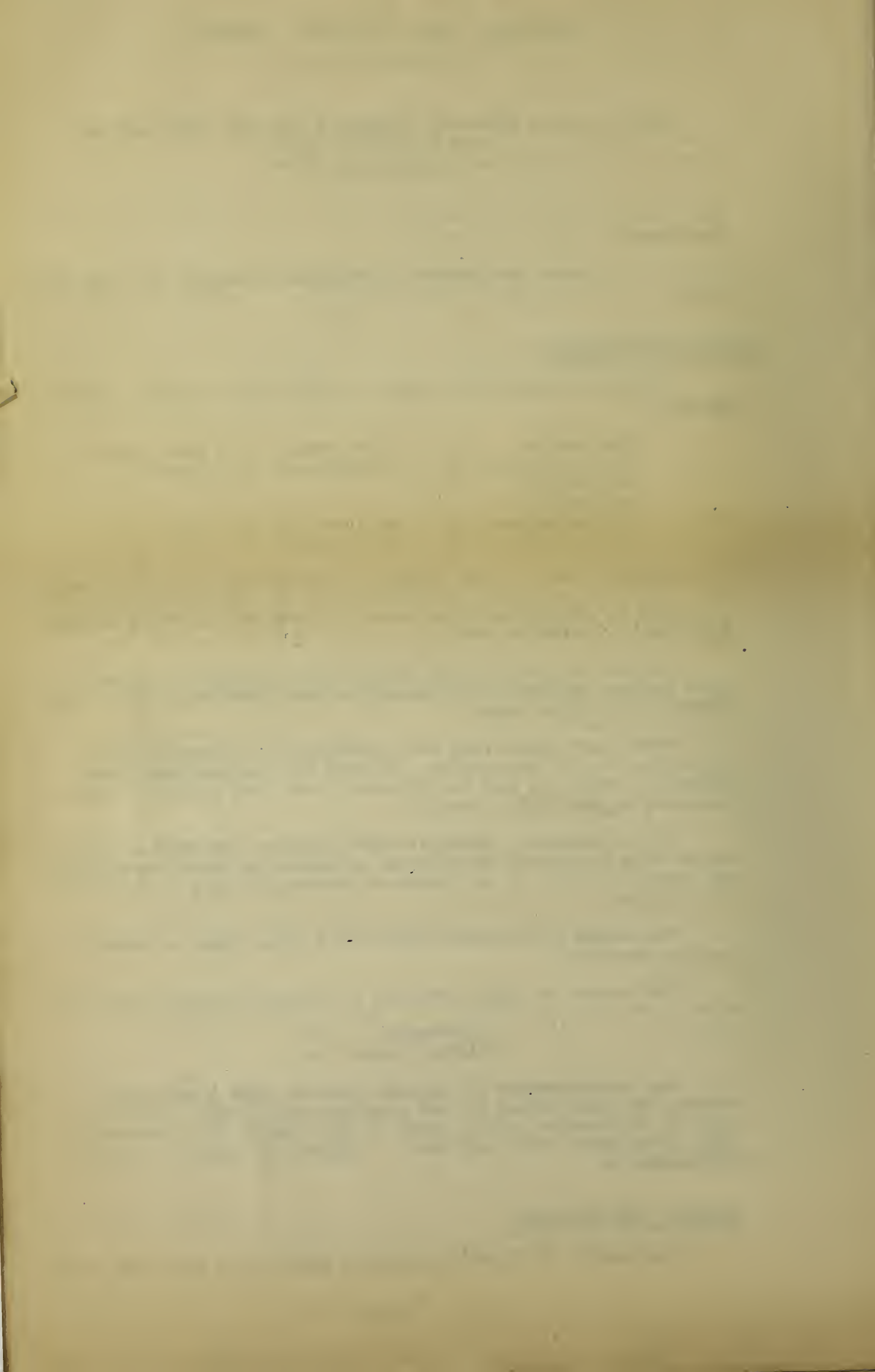
The number of cases removed to Hospital during the year were :

Diphtheria	1.
Scarlet Fever	4.

The notification of chicken pox was made compulsory during the year owing to the prevalence of small pox in the City of Gloucester and in part of the County of Gloucester, only five cases were notified. Happily no cases of small pox occurred.

HOUSING AND DRAINAGE.

The number of Houses inspected during the year was 120.



Continued unemployment has caused great distress in the district and made it almost impossible in the case of working men owners to get repairs carried out, and in some cases it was found that tenants were many weeks in arrears with their rent, which made it difficult to persuade owners to spend money on repairs.

The shortage of housing accommodation becomes progressively greater, the amount of building by no means keeping pace with the naturally increasing demand.

Nine new houses have been erected during the year, and the erection of twelve houses, part of the Council's Building Scheme, has been commenced.

Sewers have been extended in Black Horse Road, Mount Hill Road, Crown Lane, and Foots Hill. Thirty houses have been newly connected with the sewers.

Plans are being prepared for further sewer extensions.

WATER SUPPLY.

A good and constant supply of water has been maintained by the West Gloucester Water Company.

A small number of Houses obtain their water supply from wells, springs and old mine levels.

MEAT AND FOOD.

The slaughterhouses have been constantly under inspection and have been kept clean and in good condition, they are generally not of modern construction.

In my view proper supervision and inspection of the slaughtering of animals, the flesh of which is intended for human consumption, can only be secured by the compulsory slaughter of these beasts at publicly owned slaughterhouses.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories in the district have frequently been closed for considerable periods through depression in trade.

Factories and Workshops have generally been kept in clean and satisfactory sanitary condition.

OVERCROWDING.

Overcrowding continues to increase and to give rise to considerable anxiety. There are more than 300 houses with more than one family occupying them.

No improvement can be effected until the supply of houses begin to bear some relation to the demand.

SCAVENGING.

The area of collection of house refuse has again been slightly extended. Very little further improvement can be made, except by a more frequent collection, and there does not at present appear to be any need for this.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
(Sgd.) H. GLYNN WARNE.

